

To: Sanchez, Carlos[sanchez.carlos@epa.gov]; Casanova, Rafael[Casanova.Rafael@epa.gov]; Baumgarten, Gary[baumgarten.gary@epa.gov]; Brooks, Janet[Brooks.Janet@epa.gov]; Sanchez, Petra[sanchez.petra@epa.gov]; Coltrain, Katrina[coltrain.katrina@epa.gov]; Lockett, Casey[Lockett.Casey@epa.gov]; Sullivan, Robert[sullivan.robert@epa.gov]; Stankosky, Laura[stankosky.laura@epa.gov]; Purcell, Mark[purcell.mark@epa.gov]
Cc: Meyer, John[Meyer.John@epa.gov]
From: Appaji, Sairam
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 12:56:05 PM
Subject: RE: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Carlos,

At the Homestake Site, currently there is no ongoing EPA lead site investigation field work. The ongoing remediation work is regulated by Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the New Mexico Environment Department. Contaminated groundwater is extracted for treatment through Reverse Osmosis system and some portion is also directly discharged into evaporation ponds. The evaporation ponds are permitted through NMED's discharge permit. No discharge occurs in to creeks or other surface water bodies at the site.

Currently EPA is conducting a CERCLA RI/FS equivalency for work completed under NRC's authority. As part of the RI/FS equivalency EPA is conducting a re-assessment of the background groundwater quality at the site through review of existing data. EPA in the near future may require Homestake to collect additional data from existing monitor wells or potential new wells to satisfy CERCLA equivalency.

Sai Appaji

Remedial Project Manager

EPA Region 6

214-665-3126



From: Sanchez, Carlos
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 5:02 PM
To: Casanova, Rafael <Casanova.Rafael@epa.gov>; Appaji, Sairam

<appaji.sairam@epa.gov>; Baumgarten, Gary <baumgarten.gary@epa.gov>; Brooks, Janet <Brooks.Janet@epa.gov>; Sanchez, Petra <sanchez.petra@epa.gov>; Coltrain, Katrina <coltrain.katrina@epa.gov>; Lockett, Casey <Lockett.Casey@epa.gov>; Sullivan, Robert <sullivan.robert@epa.gov>; Stankosky, Laura <stankosky.laura@epa.gov>

Cc: Meyer, John <Meyer.John@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Importance: High

Please write a short paragraph for the following mining sites by noon tomorrow (8/13/15). I need this to discuss with Pam tomorrow afternoon. Thanks for your help.

See Warren's paragraph below. We need something similar but for your sites, it needs to be based on the criteria listed in the memo below. We also need to include the population in the surrounding area that may be impacted and where does the drainage go to, name of river, creek, etc.. More to come tomorrow. We may need to stop investigation work at all mining sites. We will get clarification tomorrow. CAS

Tar Creek

Homestake

Chevron Questa

Jackpile

UNC

From: Petersen, Chris

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:15 PM

To: Banipal, Ben; Price, Lisa; Sanchez, Carlos

Subject: FW: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Importance: High

Sent from my Windows Phone

From: Zehner, Warren

Sent: 8/12/2015 3:56 PM

To: Petersen, Chris

Cc: Webster, Susan; Rinehart, Jon

Subject: FW: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Chris:

All the mines associated with the TRONOX NAUM Region 6 area do not meet any of the criteria listed in the memo below. All of these mines have had the surface features removed either by the mine owner or NM MMD. To my knowledge there are no open adits and no surface discharge of mine water at any of these mines. Further, there are no perennial flowing bodies of surface anywhere near these mines. Further, all of these mines have been managed through the NM MMD closure process since the early 1990s. Surface conditions for all of these mines are well document from a health/safety standpoint within the NM MMD closure criteria. Since these mines do not meet any of the criteria described and there condition has been well documented since the early 1990s we request the ability to continue our radiological characterizations of these mines.

Warren

From: Price, Lisa

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 2:06 PM

To: Zehner, Warren; Rinehart, Jon

Subject: FW: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Importance: High

Don't know if this a real request.

Lisa Marie Price

US EPA Region 6

Grants Mining District Coordinator

214 665 6744

From: Mahmud, Shahid

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:36 AM

To: Adams, Bill; Biggs, Kirby; Carr, Lofton; Casanova, Rafael; Doolan, Mark; Gunter, Jason; Hanley, Jim; Hathaway, Ed; Hillenbrand, John; Hoogerheide, Roger; Jackson, Brad; Jenkins, Joy; Mahmud, Shahid; Mahoney, Michael; Marcy, Ken; Moreen, Ed; Price, Lisa; Progeess, Christina; Purcell, Mark; Riley, Gary; Root, Charlie; Sparks, Sara; Teichert, Candice; Tomten, Dave; Adams, Bill; Autrey, Brad; Aycock, Jim; Baumgarten, Gary; Bless, Diana; Butler, Barbara; Carr, Lofton; Chadwick, Dan; Cherepy, Andrea; Conway, Bette; Cozza, Daniel; Cruz, Francisco; Desai, Sheila; Deschambault, Lynda; Devito, Steve; DiCosmo, Nefertiti; Dixon, Douglas; Doolan, Mark; Forren, John; Forrest, Sabrina; Geselbracht, Jeanne; Godsey, Cindi; Goodrick, John; Grandinetti, Cami; Hanley, Jim; Hardy, Michael; Hathaway, Ed; Hillenbrand, John; Hood, Lynne; Housman, Van; Hudiburgh, Gary; Jackson, Brad; Jenkins, Joy; Jessop, Carter; Byrne, Jim; Johnson, Brent; Long, Larry; Lavaty, Ann; Lazorchak, Jim; Lensink, Andy; Lesser, Ben; Ellis, Lisa; Low, Seth; Mahmud, Shahid; Mahoney, Michele; Manoyan, Simon; Marcy, Ken; Mayer, Kevin; Miller, Anna; Egidi, Philip; Progeess, Christina; Purcell, Mark; Riley, Gary; Root, Charlie; Roy, Stephen; Russell, Carol; Teichert, Candice; Teitelbaum, Daniel; Tiago, Joseph; Tomten, Dave; Watt, Jamey; Wilkening, Matt

Subject: Fw: URGENT: We need to develop a list by the end of this week

Importance: High

Folks,

I am working at the Emergency Operations Center related to the Gold King Mine spill. As you know, Gina McCarthy is in Colorado and meeting with three attorney generals. Jim Woolford is going to have a call with the Division Directors and will be sending out an email stating the following:

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities. We are conducting an investigation of the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the lessons learned from that investigation, we will determine what guidance may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site to identify any immediate threats and appropriate response actions.

In the meantime the NMT has been tasked to come up with an inventory of sites that have ongoing or future assessments with features containing fluids (mine workings,

tailings dams, open pits, heap leaches). So we need to develop a matrix of sites with the following fields:

Site Name

Location

Mine Features

Features containing water

Do the mine bearing features have:

Controls in-place (plugs, hydraulic drawdown)

No controls in place

No hydraulic issues

There may be more information but I need to jump on to another call. Thanks!

Shahid Mahmud
Team Leader
EPA Abandoned Mine Lands Team
703-603-8789